



The American Legion - Hopewell Memorial Post 146

General Membership Meeting

January 21, 2019

Consolidated Summaries of Previous Meetings

December 17th General Membership and January 7th Executive Committee Meetings

Summaries of Previous General and Executive Committee Meetings:

a. December 17th General Membership Meeting:

Officer Reports:

• Membership (1st Vice):

- The Post now stands at 90% of the renewal objective with 321 paid members.
- The following people applied for American Legion and Post 146 membership:

New: - James R. "Dicky" Dennis (USMC) applied for American Legion and Post 146 membership

By transfer: Terrance Archer (USA) and Ralph Barcus (USA) applied to the Post as transfer members

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the above-named applicants as members of The American Legion and Post 146.

• Americanism/ Children & Youth Progs (2nd Vice):

- John Randolph Foundation accepting scholarship application until February 15th. Those with students or knowing of students in their senior year of high school or in college may apply for the Post Scholarship (\$1,000) or any of a number of scholarships the Foundation offers. Members are encouraged to go to the Foundation's website to check on availability and application requirements.
- We will be receiving Essay Contest entries within the next week or so. We will judge the essays on January 7th at 11:00 am and those interested are invited to come and help judge the entries. The 1st place winner will go one to compete at the 4th District contest.

- Bingo/Gaming (3rd Vice): After an audit of the BINGO account, the Post has met the 10% donation requirement for the year. Money generated during December will be transferred to the Restricted Account for use on applicable projects. [provided by the adjutant].

- Service Officer: Working with veterans to help solve health issues and assist with disability claims. As an example, just finished working with a veteran who has health and disability claim issues. Recently got him to McGuire Hospital where his medical issues are being addressed and as of this week, about 99% of his disability request packet is complete. It should be ready for submission very soon. These actions have helped the veteran and his family and they are quite relieved to have these issues addressed. Introduced Rick Keefer as the Post's new Assistant Service Officer.
- Chaplain: Tommy Powroznik recently underwent quadruple by-pass surgery. Loretta Perry recently suffered a stroke and was last reported at Southside Regional Medical Center.
- Finance Officer: Beginning Balance: \$75,475; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$98,107; Expenditures \$89,633. Net end of month balance for November was \$81,949. Trend continues to be positive.
- Historian: Request interesting personal stories for input into the monthly newsletter.

Old Business (Cdr): None

New Business: (Cdr):

- a. Improvements to the Clubroom: A motion was made not to go forward with approved upgrades to the Post Club Room area until a definite policy on smoking in the Post was established. Reason given for this motion was because it was deemed a waste of money to purchase new ceiling tiles and clean and re-paint the Club Room when the stain and discoloring from smoking would damage and discolor the new tiles and paint. Motion was seconded.

Action: The motion to not go forward with Executive Committee approved upgrades to the Post Club Room until a smoking policy was established was APPROVED

- b. Smoking Policy: A motion was made to present a draft policy on smoking at the January General Membership meeting. The motion was seconded. The motion was later amended to bring the issue to the membership at the February meeting rather than the January meeting and advance notification be placed in the newsletter, on the Post website, and advertised with flyers in the Club Room.

Action: The motion to present a draft policy on smoking at the February General Membership meeting was APPROVED.

Good of the Legion: (Cdr)

- Veterans Appreciation Hours (Happy Hour) hours have changed. It was suggested that the new hours be better advertised..

b. January 7th Executive Committee Meeting:

Officer Reports:

- Membership (1st Vice): No Report
- Americanism and Children & Youth (2nd Vice):
 - Middle School Essay Contest: The Post received eight entries which were reviewed and evaluated on Jan 7th. Results were:
 - 1st – Emily Griffin [\$100 award]
 - 2nd – Jeniya White [\$50 award]
 - 3rd – Kaydence Jarrett [\$25 award]Ms. Megan Babb, Emily’s teacher, received a \$100 award
Emily’s essay will be entered into the 4th District Essay Contest
 - John Randolph Foundation: The Foundation has changed the amount and levels for charging administrative management fees. Instead of a flat administration fee of \$400 plus \$300 for each scholarship offered (\$700 total in our Post’s case), the Foundation is moving to a fee based on a set percent of the value of the account as reported on Dec 31st of each calendar year. The fee pays for all of the administration involved in managing the investment, reporting, advertising, conducting annual candidate assessments and holding an award ceremony.
 - a. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to continue the Post’s relationship with the Foundation and authorize them to act in the Post’s behalf in administering the Post’s scholarship fund
 - b. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to raise the fund minimum (the minimum we must keep in the investment account) to \$25,000.
 - c. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to offer one scholarship with a value of \$2,000 in 2020.
- Bingo (3rd Vice): A full review of BINGO operations over 2019 is complete and the Annual Financial Report for the Office of Charitable Gaming is nearly complete. The Post finished the year very well. The Post exceeded the 10% target reaching 12.5% with charitable donations and allowable improvements totaling \$71,489 for calendar year 2019.

- Post Finances (Fin Off): Beginning Balance: \$75,475; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$98,107; Expenditures \$89,633. Net end of month balance for November was \$81,949. Trend continues to be positive.
- House Committee: The committee accomplished the following:
 - Developed new work procedures for bartenders/servers, bar manager, facility manager, and Daily Book drawing
 - Hired two new part-time cooks: Brandi Hamilton and Michelle (Shelly) Tuck
 - Purchased a three-pot soup/sauce warmer
 - Purchased a new, small belt-driven commercial toaster
- Chaplain: William 'Buddy' Keener (WWII Vet) passed away December 26, 2019. Funeral will be at Woodland Presbyterian Church, Jan 21st. Loretta Perry recently suffered a stroke and can no longer live alone. Entered Brighter Living Care Facility and was recently visited by Maryann Buchanan. Tommy Powroznik is at home recovering from quadruple by-pass surgery.

Unfinished (Old) Business:

1. Pending Major Purchase Actions: Status Reports
 - a. Canopy/Awning for E. City Point Entrances: Pending installation by the vendor. Vendor stated that installation target date is January 15th.
 - b. Approved Decorating Committee Recommendations: No action at this time as a hold on all new work was enacted by a vote of the General Membership.
 - c. Electrical System Evaluation: Tom Ashworth is still working on developing a list of needed repairs and associated costs.
2. Paralyzed Veterans Association has confirmed using the main activity room on February 22, 2020 to conduct a Fishing Tackle Yard Sale/Flea Market. The Post will cater the event. Planning and advertising underway.
3. ABC License Application: Adjutant reported that nearly all required information has been collected and the application will be submitted during the week of January 13th.
4. WWII Veterans Breakfast program: ALA Unit 146 is coordinating WWII Vets for breakfast on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 9:00 am.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVE for the Post to pay the cost of breakfasts for WWII veterans and any escorts at WWII Veterans Breakfasts. This event will be funded using BINGO Funds.

New Business:

1. Donation Plan for 2020: A Donation Plan for calendar year 2020 was presented to the committee for review.

Action: This item deferred until the February meeting.

2. Donations for McGuire Hospital: Discussion occurred around replacing the plastic bin in the Club Room to accept donations for McGuire Veterans Hospital. The bin had been mislaid or stored by person or persons unknown and was recently discovered. It was suggested that the program be reinitiated to receive donations.

Action: The committee decided to announce the return of the donation program at the next General Membership Meeting.

3. Support for the Hopewell Moose Lodge: Commander has been approached to allow the Moose to conduct a fundraiser to help them rebuild their building.

Action: A motion was made, seconded, and APPROVED to grant the use of the Post's Main Activity Hall, without charge, to the Moose Lodge for a fundraiser. Tentative date in March, 2020.

4. Sponsorship of Boys State Delegates: Received a letter from the Director of the Boys State Program requesting the number of delegates the Post wishes to sponsor for the 2020 session scheduled for June 21-27, 2020 at Radford University. [2nd Vice Cdr Action]

Action: 2nd Vice Commander (Bob Horneck) will coordinate the process and candidate selection with Hopewell High School. He will provide updates as the program progresses.

Donation Requests:

1. Hopewell High School: The School's band has been chosen to represent Virginia in the 2020 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. They request donations to purchase new uniforms for the band as their current uniforms are 15 years old and well-worn. New uniforms cost \$474 each.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$948 to provide two (2) uniforms.

2. Hopewell Sheriff's Office: Requests donation of \$200 for the Hopewell Sheriff Calendar. Proceeds go to assist the Sheriff's Office. Donation will be recognized with the Post's logo [1.5" x 3.0"] on the calendar.

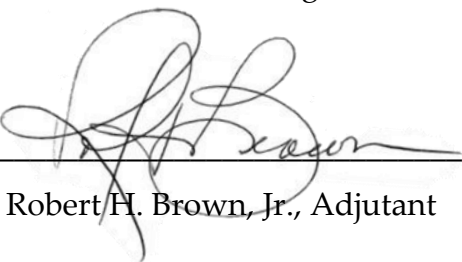
Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$200 to the Hopewell Sheriff's Office for their Annual Calendar.

3. Freedom Support Center (Petersburg): Requests unspecified donation to assist them in efforts to support active duty, military veterans and their families in the Petersburg, Hopewell, Prince George area.
4. Hopewell City Public Schools: requests an unspecified donation to support their "Travel with Us Through Deeper Learning" Exhibition scheduled for 7 January 2020. Children's work in art, poetry, crafts and handwork is being exhibited. *[NOTE: We did not receive this request until mid-December, so this event will be completed before we can make a donation]*
5. Korean American Society of Greater Petersburg: Requests a donation of \$1,000 to support their on-going support for veterans and families, especially those with ties to South Korea. Post 146 has historically supported this organization. Last donation was for \$750 in December, 2017.
6. American Veterans Publications campaigning on behalf of The American Legion Department of Virginia: Solicits advertisements for the "State Convention Program". Ads range from \$995 for a full page; \$770 for half page; \$465 for 1/4 page; \$265 for 1/8 page to \$180 for 1/5 column. *[NOTE: Adjutant checking with Department to determine if this is a valid request]*
7. Special Olympics Virginia: Requests donation to support their ongoing programs for special needs children. The Post donation \$250 in March 2018 and \$500 in June 2019 to this organization.
8. Hopewell-Prince George Friends of the Library: Requests an unspecified donation to support their 2020 Summer Reading Program for local area children. Last summer the program involved approximately 13,000 youth and their families.

Action: With the exception of items #1 and #2, the above listed requests were deferred to the next meeting.

Good of the Legion: No Comments

Official Summaries of Meetings/Conduct of Business is attested by the undersigned.



Robert H. Brown, Jr., Adjutant